

walked from his home to his law firm, Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe, where he had worked since 1960.

Monte was born Jan. 4, 1935, in Ames, IA. His family moved to Denver when he was a young boy, settling in the Park Hill neighborhood. He graduated from East High School and went to Dartmouth College, where he met Pat, and earned his law degree from Stanford University.

We in Denver and Colorado counted on Monte and turned to him when a task needed to be done, or a problem solved, or a perspective gained. He carried out his role as a "servant leader" with humor, grace, selflessness and humility. Our community will miss him tremendously, and our thoughts and prayers are with his wonderful family.●

TRIBUTE TO GARLAND RASH

● Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, today I would like to share with you Garland Rash's inspiring story of bravery and determination that saw him use his remarkable talent for woodwork to serve his country during the dark days of World War II.

Born in 1924, Garland was raised in Drew County, AR, where he put himself through school and developed an interest in carpentry. Like so many other Americans, he was horrified at the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 and immediately set out to aid in the country's war effort. This led him to California, where he dedicated himself to building wooden racks that could be used to raise ships out of the water to be repaired.

Garland soon realized during a visit home on Mother's Day in 1943 that he wanted to do more for his county. That summer, he enlisted in the Navy and underwent a grueling period in boot camp. Garland was then assigned to the 116th Naval Battalion as part of the construction unit of the Navy, nicknamed the "Seebees."

After more training in Rhode Island and Bay St. Louis, Garland was shipped to Pearl Harbor where he, alongside many other talented carpenters, was part of a covert operation to equip U.S. military planes with a more advanced type of engine. While there, Garland decided to collect several pieces of wood and Plexiglas from the debris of the 1941 bombing. During his non-working hours, Garland used these pieces to fashion two wooden boxes, using parachute scraps for the lining and Plexiglas from windshields to create a beautiful inlaid mosaic pattern on the lid.

While in Pearl Harbor, a young marine named Bob Crosby, brother of famed singer Bing Crosby, was struck by the workmanship of these boxes. He asked Garland whether he would be willing to sell one to him and Garland agreed. Though Garland never saw him again, Bob Crosby would go on to become an accomplished actor and musician through the 1950s.

Garland continued his distinguished military service in Iwo Jima, the Phil-

ippines, and Japan where he and his fellow American troops accepted the surrender of Japanese forces in 1945. After returning to the United States in December of that year, Garland resumed his relationship with Kathleen Lawson, a woman he had dated while on leave from the Navy during the war. They were married on March 1, 1946.

Today, their home in Monticello, AR, is filled with loving pictures of several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Remarkably, Garland managed to hold on to the other wooden box that he carved from the rubble of Pearl Harbor and keeps it today as a remembrance of the war and his service.

Looking at this box today, I, like Bob Crosby so many years ago, am amazed by the extraordinary craftsmanship, and I am awestruck knowing its historical significance. Garland, like so many World War II veterans, is truly a part of the "greatest American generation" and I hope you will join me in paying tribute to his extraordinary service to this Nation.●

RECOGNIZING DARLYS J. BAUM

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Darlys J. Baum on her retirement from the South Dakota Housing Development Authority after 30 years of dedicated service to our State. Dar has served under six South Dakota Governors. Prior to being named executive director in 1995, Dar served as deputy executive director for 11 years. Before that, she served in various capacities, including director of rental housing programs.

In addition to her duties as executive director, Dar found the time to bring South Dakota's rural housing perspective to regional and national boards. She served as a member of Fannie Mae's National Housing Impact Advisory Council from 2002-2003 and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines from 2002-2004.

Under Dar's leadership, the South Dakota Housing Development Authority issued nearly \$2.27 billion in long-term and \$1.95 billion in short-term home ownership bonds. During this time, 23,869 families and individuals took advantage of SDHDA's low-interest mortgage loan opportunities, accounting for more than \$1.8 billion in loans purchased. Additionally, more than \$12.8 million was loaned to 7,602 families for downpayment and closing cost assistance.

Working with lenders, service providers, and realtors, Dar helped create the Homeownership Education Resource Organization, HERO, to provide high-quality home buyer education. Pursuing the American dream of homeownership can be a daunting challenge for many families, and home buyer education services can help walk these families through the home buying process.

Since Dar became executive director, SDHDA allocated more than \$16.4 mil-

lion in housing tax credits for 89 developments across South Dakota. Nearly 3,300 affordable housing units were created or preserved, totaling more than \$242 million in project costs.

During that same time, SDHDA used the HOME Investment Partnership Program for 939 HOME-assisted units in 88 multifamily developments, receiving more than \$39 million in funding for construction or rehabilitation. Also, more than \$1.6 million in HOME funding was utilized for homeowner-ship rehabilitation in 222 homes. Total development costs contributed to South Dakota's economy from the HOME Program were more than \$102 million during Dar's tenure as executive director.

Dar was instrumental in helping lead the charge to end homelessness in South Dakota. She helped form the statewide Housing for the Homeless Consortium and the Governor's Inter-agency Council on Homelessness. These organizations were created to unite those who work to provide shelter, employment opportunities, food, education, health care, and support for those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Since its creation, the Housing for the Homeless Consortium has been awarded about \$6.5 million through the Continuum of Care Grant Program, which is a competitive grant program administered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

As you can see, under Dar's extraordinary leadership, the South Dakota Housing Development Authority has done an impressive amount of work on South Dakota's housing needs. I, again, want to thank Dar for her tireless efforts to improve the housing opportunities available to South Dakota families. My staff and I have always highly valued her advice on so many important housing issues. Dar has a unique ability to generate creative solutions and bring people together in partnerships that solve so many critical housing problems. Dar Baum's commitment and dedication to public service is an example for others in public service to emulate.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and two withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)